

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

Please amend the claims below by deleting items marked with a strikeout (i.e. ~~patent~~) or brackets (i.e., [patent]) and adding items marked with an underline (i.e. patent).

1. (Original) An energy absorbing safety barrier system comprising:

a plurality of plates affixed to a retaining wall in an overlapping manner to inhibit shearing of said system and dispersal of sheared objects;

a plurality of fins depending from said plurality of plates, said plurality of fins deformable for dissipating energy generated by impact of a vehicle thereon.

2. (Original) The system of Claim 1, wherein said plurality of plates are affixed to said retaining wall via fasteners.

3. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim 1, wherein each of said plurality of plates comprises a vertically disposed non-planar margin offset from a plane of said plate for overlapping with a vertically disposed planar margin of an adjacent said plate.

4. (Original) The system of Claim 1, wherein each of said plurality of plates is fabricated from mild steel to inhibit fracturing of said plurality of plates upon impact and for absorbing and dissipating energy generated by impact.

5. (Original) The system of Claim 1, wherein each of said plurality of fins is welded to corresponding one of said plurality of plates.
6. (Original) The system of Claim 1, wherein each of said plurality of fins is aligned at an angle between 25° and 60° from the normal direction of said vehicle.
7. (Original) The system of Claim 1, wherein each of said plurality of fins is equidistantly spaced from adjacent said plurality of fins.
8. (Original) The system of Claim 1, wherein upon impact, a first fin is displaced and generates a cascade of displacement of said plurality of fins adjacent said first fin, thereby dissipating energy away from said vehicle.
9. (Original) The system of Claim 8, wherein frictional energy generated between adjacent plurality of fins during displacement further dissipates energy away from said vehicle.

Please add the following new claims:

10. (New)     An energy absorbing safety barrier system comprising:

a plurality of plates affixed to a retaining wall in an overlapping manner to inhibit shearing of said system and dispersal of sheared objects;

a plurality of fins depending from said plurality of plates, said plurality of fins deformable for dissipating energy generated by impact of a vehicle thereon; and

each one of said fins having a free side and an affixed side, wherein a weld traversing the lengths of said affixed side affixes said fin to said plate.

11. (New)     The system of Claim 10, wherein said plurality of plates are affixed to said retaining wall via fasteners.

12. (New)     The system of Claim 10, wherein each of said plurality of plates comprises a vertically disposed non-planar margin offset from a plane of said plate for overlapping with a vertically disposed planar margin of an adjacent said plate.

13. (New)     The system of Claim 10, wherein each of said plurality of plates is fabricated from mild steel to inhibit fracturing of said plurality of plates upon impact and for absorbing and dissipating energy generated by impact.

14. (New) The system of Claim 10, wherein each of said plurality of fins is aligned at an angle between 25° and 60° from the normal direction of said vehicle.

15. (New) The system of Claim 10, wherein each of said plurality of fins is equidistantly spaced from adjacent said plurality of fins.

16. (New) The system of Claim 10, wherein upon impact, a first fin is displaced and generates a cascade of displacement of said plurality of fins adjacent said first fin, thereby dissipating energy away from said vehicle.

17. (New) The system of Claim 16, wherein frictional energy generated between adjacent plurality of fins during displacement further dissipates energy away from said vehicle.